



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development

1305 South Main, Suite 103, Henderson, Texas 75654

Phone: (903) 657-8221, Ext. 4 • Fax: (903) 657-2571 • TDD: (254) 742-9700 • Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx>

Date: February 8, 2006

Release Number TX 138.06

Contact Name: Joe Jones

Telephone Number: 903-657-8221, Ext. 4

Email: Joe.Jones@tx.usda.gov

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES GROUND BREAKING FOR CLAYTON WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION

CLAYTON, TEXAS, February 8, 2006-- Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, today participated in a ground breaking ceremony at the Clayton Water Supply Corporation, which received \$1,107,000 through the agency's Community Program's Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program. The funds will be used to add three additional wells, construct a new standpipe plant, make improvements to two existing plants, and add new distribution lines throughout the existing service area.

"The USDA Rural Development Water and Waste Disposal Programs target public health benefits and economic opportunities in America's rural communities," said Daniel. "Projects such as this one in Clayton will help make the environment cleaner and protect the public health for local residents."

In Fiscal Year 2005, \$80.7 million of loan and grant assistance was distributed throughout rural Texas to 315,249 households. USDA Rural Development's Water and Waste Disposal Program is designed to bring fresh, clean drinking water and sanitary, environmentally sound sewage facilities to rural America's 53 million residents. Loans and grants are available to rural communities with fewer than 10,000 residents. Public bodies, corporations operating on a non-profit basis, and Indian tribes, that are unable to obtain credit from other sources at reasonable rates and terms, are eligible for assistance.

USDA Rural Development was created in 1994 to serve Texas' more than 3.6 million rural residents. For further information regarding USDA Rural Development Programs, contact the Henderson Local Office at (903) 657-8221, Extension 4, or visit our website at <http://rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.



Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, Panola County Judge David Anderson, attorney Mike Parker, Roger Smith, engineer from J.F. Fontaine & Associates of Palestine, and Joe Jones, USDA Rural Development Manager, participated in the groundbreaking ceremony at the new well location for the Clayton Water Supply.

Committed to the future of rural communities.

"USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender."

To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD).